

January 2012

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KYAE, KCTCS and the Kentucky Education and Workforce Development Cabinet were awarded a \$1.6 million grant to support efforts to ensure more Kentuckians have the workforce skills they need. The three-year grant is part of Accelerating Opportunity: A Breaking Through Initiative, supported by a strategic partnership of five of the nation's leading philanthropies. Kentucky joins Illinois, Kansas and North Carolina in the project.

The following community and technical colleges and adult education programs are involved in the Accelerating Opportunity pilot – Bluegrass, Gateway, Jefferson, Madisonville, Maysville, Owensboro, Southeast and West Kentucky.

The Accelerating Opportunity pilot seeks to put adult students on track to earn a postsecondary credential. "Accelerating Opportunity will allow us to help adults attain both academic and occupational skills in a more integrated way than ever before, with the goal of preparing them for careers and to be college ready," said Reecie D. Stagnolia, vice president, Kentucky Adult Education, Council on Postsecondary Education. "At the same time, the work with our statewide partners is building an important recruitment and referral model that will benefit an even greater number of adult students."

RFP clarification

Due to the competitive nature of the KYAE RFP for 2012-13, KYAE cannot communicate directly with its current provider network on RFP issues. KYAE communicates RFP information to current providers and other interested applicants through its [website](#).



From KAACE – Day at the Capitol

The following is from Tonya Crum on behalf of KAACE:

You're all invited to the KAACE Day at the Capitol on Thursday, February 23.

This year KAACE is trying a different approach to ensure we have the opportunity to talk to a greater percentage of Senators and Representatives than ever before.

KAACE is asking each of you to set up an appointment with your local representative to talk about adult education in Kentucky and thank them for the investment they continue to make in Kentucky's adult students. We realize that some representatives won't be able to meet on this date, but the more we have on February 23, the larger impact we can make.

We will set up "base" in the Capitol Annex cafeteria near the back at 9:30 that morning so that you can leave your coats and belongings there and get a KAACE button to wear. We want Adult Education to be a visible force in the building that day. Feel free to eat lunch with your colleagues there after your meetings, but KAACE will not be providing lunch this year.

For full information about the event, please see the [KAACE website](#).

Congrats

Amy Matthews, a Mercer County Adult Education instructor, was presented the Jane Coomes Teacher of the Year Award by the Mercer County Chamber of Commerce. Jill S. Cutler, the chamber's executive director, said, "Amy has done so much in her short tenure to change the image and energy of adult education here. She is involved heavily with the chamber, workforce development and the industrial authority. She is a leader in our community and an example of an outstanding community leader." Please join KYAE in congratulating Amy for her hard work and recognition of the adult education program in her community.

Joyce Bullock of KYAE's professional development staff was invited to become secretary of the Association of Adult Learner Professional Developers. Previously, she's been a member at large. The association will help develop a PD track for COABE and is also involved in COABE's preconference offerings.

PowerPath opportunity

Over the past three years KYAE has offered a professional development opportunity for adult educators to learn how to use the PowerPath to Education and Employment system. In 2011-12, KYAE expanded the delivery of this professional development to include 16 counties. In moving ahead with professional development plans for next year, we would like to know how many counties are interested in participating.

In the past, many program directors and instructors have participated in the Bridges to Practice professional development that provided a framework of basic knowledge and information specific to learning disabilities. Participants in Bridges had asked for more in-depth training that would provide them with the strategies and necessary tools to work with challenging adult students. PowerPath provides that next step in learning how to administer easy-to-use screenings, analyzing the results and recommending techniques for student use.

If you would like to know more about PowerPath, you may find this link informative:

<http://powerpath.com/>.

By February 3, please contact Meryl Becker-Prezocki, Meryl.Becker-Prezocki@ky.gov, if you would like to be considered for the 2012-13 cohort.

Affording college

Although many Kentuckians may think a college education is financially out of reach, that isn't necessarily the case, according to the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA).

Student financial aid programs are available to help pay for college. Financial aid comes in many forms — scholarships, grants, work-study programs and loans — and most students will qualify for more than one type of assistance. By working with the college financial aid office, adults may find that higher education is more affordable than they believed.

Adults interested in college should file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.gov. The FAFSA determines the amount of federal and state aid for which they qualify.

Students should also search for scholarship opportunities. Not all scholarships are based on grades or athletic ability. Some are for students from particular areas, for those interested in certain fields or for students from specific backgrounds. A good place to start is *Affording Higher Education*, a KHEAA resource book available in public libraries. Also check out the Paying for College section on www.kheaa.com, which has a link to a free scholarship search engine. With some research and by working with financial aid professionals, students may find that a college education is well within their reach.

Valuable resources

KYAE staff, PD partners and adult educators continue to identify a wealth of classroom resources to share with the provider network. Some of the latest ones to surface are listed below.

KET provides a wide variety of resources developed specifically for adult educators. Don't miss out on these great classroom tools:

- KET has recently added a new collection to Teachers' Domain, an online repository of resources for educators at all levels. [Teaching Strategies: Resources for Adult Educators](#) features footage of real adult education teachers in real classroom settings. You will find effective techniques for promoting group discussion, encouraging critical thinking and managing the classroom environment. Be sure to watch the additional video interviews with the teachers, and take a few minutes to read the background essay and discussion questions! These resources are great to review on your own or with other adult educators.
- Resources for Common Core Standards are available – [math resources](#), [English/language arts](#).
- KET has created three collections of online resources correlated to the WorkKeys assessments and uploaded them to KET Teachers' Domain. These collections of resources, which originally appeared in KET's Workplace Essential Skills and GED Connection series and accompanying workbooks, are designed to help students prepare for the WorkKeys assessments. Students studying for their GED® test may also find practicing these skills helpful. The three collections listed below include 24 video segments and 12 worksheet pdfs. The resources were created for teacher use, but adult students could also work through these materials.
 - [Applied Math](#)
 - [Locating Information](#)
 - [Reading for Information](#)
- KET's "Tech Teaching Tips" is a monthly newsletter that continues to provide great adult education resources, including incorporating technology into lessons, links to short educational video clips and suggested classroom activities. Click on the [December issue](#).
- Please take a few minutes to complete the [KET Teacher Survey](#) about how you are reaching adult students today and how you would like to reach them in the future. Your responses will help KET to create resources tailored to your plans.

Kay Combs, a Scott County Adult Education instructor, developed an adult education orientation as part of a practicum project for her doctoral program. Kay gathered input from other adult education directors to guide her work. The result is a [toolkit](#) consisting of a PowerPoint and handouts for student success.

Check out the [LINCS publication webpage](#) for research-based resources on basic skills, program management and workforce competitiveness. There are new resources added monthly, so if you haven't visited the site lately, check it out.

If you're not reading [The Community](#), a newsletter for GED testing professionals and adult educators, you're missing the latest information about GED. [Click here](#) for the latest issue and to sign up to receive the e-newsletter.

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